

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A method for automatically aligning a feed forward loop in a radio frequency power amplifier, the method comprising:

applying a radio frequency signal to an input of the radio frequency power amplifier;

splitting the radio frequency signal;

communicating the radio frequency signal through both legs of one loop of the radio frequency power amplifier;

combining radio frequency signals from both legs of the loop;

monitoring the combined radio frequency signal from a selected point of the radio frequency power amplifier; and

facilitating communication of a radio frequency signal from a signal cancellation loop delay to an error cancellation loop group delay adjuster to facilitate alignment of the signal cancellation loop of the radio frequency power amplifier, wherein said facilitating comprises closing a switch so as to facilitate communication of a radio frequency signal from a signal cancellation loop delay to an error cancellation loop group delay adjuster to facilitate alignment of the signal cancellation loop of the radio frequency power amplifier;

wherein the selected point of the radio frequency power amplifier provides a signal representative of an output of the error cancellation loop group delay adjuster.

5. (Original) The method as recited in claim 4, wherein no breakpoints are open in the radio frequency power amplifier when the radio frequency signal is communicated through both legs of the loop.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Amended) The method as recited in claim 5, further comprising:
terminating an output of the radio frequency power amplifier .

9. (Currently Amended) A method for automatically aligning a feed forward loop in a radio frequency power amplifier, the method comprising:

applying a radio frequency signal to an input of the radio frequency power amplifier;

splitting the radio frequency signal;

communicating the radio frequency signal through both legs of one loop of the radio frequency power amplifier;

combining radio frequency signals from both legs of the loop;

monitoring the combined radio frequency signal from a selected point of the radio frequency power amplifier; and

inhibiting communication of a radio frequency signal from a signal cancellation loop delay to an error cancellation loop group delay adjuster to facilitate alignment of the error cancellation loop of the radio frequency power amplifier, wherein said inhibiting comprises opening a switch so as to inhibit communication of a radio frequency signal from a signal cancellation loop delay to an error cancellation loop group delay adjuster to facilitate alignment of the error cancellation loop of the radio frequency power amplifier;

wherein the selected point is an output of the radio frequency power amplifier.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Amended) A method for automatically aligning a feed forward loop in a radio frequency power amplifier, the method comprising:

- applying a radio frequency signal to an input of the radio frequency power amplifier;

- splitting the radio frequency signal;

- communicating the radio frequency signal through both legs of one loop of the radio frequency power amplifier;

- combining radio frequency signals from both legs of the loop;

- monitoring the combined radio frequency signal from a selected point of the radio frequency power amplifier; and

- controlling a state of a switch via a controller, the switch facilitating/inhibiting communication of a radio frequency signal from the signal cancellation loop delay to the error cancellation loop group delay adjuster.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously Amended) A method for automatically aligning a feed forward loop in a radio frequency power amplifier, the method comprising:

- applying a radio frequency signal to an input of the radio frequency power amplifier;

- splitting the radio frequency signal;

- communicating the radio frequency signal through both legs of one loop of the radio frequency power amplifier;

- combining radio frequency signals from both legs of the loop;

- monitoring the combined radio frequency signal from a selected point of the radio

frequency power amplifier;

measuring a first complex gain along a passive path of a selected loop with the gain of the active path minimized;

measuring a second complex gain along a composite path of the selected loop;

determining a relative complex gain from the first and second complex gains; and

adjusting alignment of the selected loop based upon the relative complex gain.

19. (Previously Amended) A method for automatically aligning a feed forward loop in a radio frequency power amplifier, the method comprising:

applying a radio frequency signal to an input of the radio frequency power amplifier;

splitting the radio frequency signal;

communicating the radio frequency signal through both legs of one loop of the radio frequency power amplifier;

combining radio frequency signals from both legs of the loop;

monitoring the combined radio frequency signal from a selected point of the radio frequency power amplifier;

measuring complex gain $(S_{21})^p$ along a passive path of a selected loop with the gain of the active path minimized;

measuring complex gain $(S_{21})^c$ along a composite path of the selected loop;

determining a relative complex gain $(S_{21})^e$ according to the formula $(S_{21})^e = 1 - (S_{21})^c / (S_{21})^p$; and

adjusting an alignment of the selected loop so as to make relative complex gain $(S_{21})^e$ magnitude approximately equal to 0 while also making relative complex gain $(S_{21})^e$ phase approximately equal to 180° .

20. (Previously Amended) A method for automatically aligning a feed forward loop in a radio frequency power amplifier, the method comprising:

applying a radio frequency signal to an input of the radio frequency power amplifier;

splitting the radio frequency signal;

communicating the radio frequency signal through both legs of one loop of the radio frequency power amplifier;

combining radio frequency signals from both legs of the loop;

monitoring the combined radio frequency signal from a selected point of the radio frequency power amplifier;

measuring complex gain $(S_{21})^p$ along a passive path of a selected loop with the gain of the active path minimized;

measuring complex gain $(S_{21})^c$ along a composite path of the selected loop;

determining a relative complex gain $(S_{21})^e$ according to the formula $(S_{21})^e = 1 - (S_{21})^c / (S_{21})^p$;

adjusting an alignment of the selected loop so as to make relative complex gain $(S_{21})^e$ magnitude approximately equal to 0 while also making relative complex gain $(S_{21})^e$ phase approximately equal to 180° ; and

readjusting an alignment of the selected loop so as to approximately minimize $|(S_{21})^c|$.

21. (Previously Amended) A system for automatically aligning a feed forward loop in a radio frequency power amplifier, the system comprising:

a radio frequency source configured to provide a radio frequency signal to the radio frequency power amplifier;

a radio frequency monitor configured to monitor a radio frequency signal from the radio frequency power amplifier;

a switch for determining what point on the radio frequency power amplifier the radio frequency monitor is in communication with; and

a controller configured to control an output of the radio frequency source and to control a position of the switch;

wherein the radio frequency source and the radio frequency monitor at least partially define a network analyzer.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Original) The system as recited in claim 21, wherein the controller comprises an automatic test equipment controller.

24. (Original) The system as recited in claim 21, wherein the controller comprises a personal computer.

25. (Original) The system as recited in claim 21, wherein the controller is configured so as to control a position of a switch of the radio frequency power amplifier.

26. (Previously Amended) A system for automatically aligning a feed forward loop in a radio frequency power amplifier, the system comprising:

- a radio frequency source configured to provide a radio frequency signal to the radio frequency power amplifier;

- a radio frequency monitor configured to monitor a radio frequency signal from the radio frequency power amplifier;

- a switch for determining what point on the radio frequency power amplifier the radio frequency monitor is in communication with;

- a controller configured to control an output of the radio frequency source and to control a position of the switch; and

- a terminator configured to be placed in electrical communication with an output of the radio frequency power amplifier.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled)